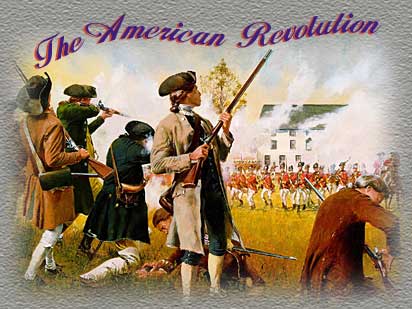
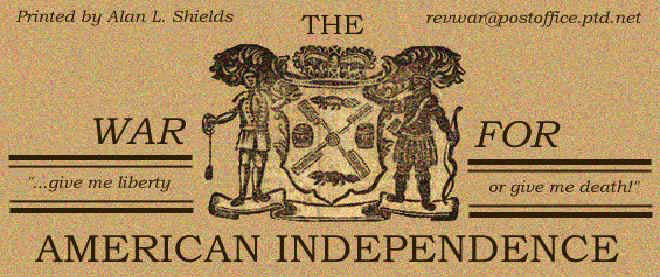
**Causes of the American Revolution**



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**There was no event that singularly led to the revolution. The Americans felt strongly independent. They wanted to do** **things for themselves and Great Britain was a long distance away. They didn't want to be under the control of people who were an ocean away.**   
  
**The war began over a disagreement over the way Britain treated the American colonies versus the way the colonies felt they should be treated. The British felt that the colonies were created so that they could be used in a way that best suited them. Unlike the Americans who thought that they should be given all of the rights of the Englishmen. Before the revolution the American were forced to pay unfair taxes. The American colonies were expected to pay a large share of the war debt from the French and Indian War. The** **Americans found the amount they had to pay very harsh. The American people also thought that they should be able to send their own people to Britain's Parliament or at least** **vote for Britain's lawmakers. The combination of the harsh taxes and the lack of any** **American voice in Parliament gave rise to the famous phrase "taxation without representation".** **Patrick Henry, Thomas Paine, who were influential leaders of Republicanism and others** **wanted an independent America. They wanted colonies free from British rule and interference.**  
**The Americans started stockpiling guns and ammunition in violation of British laws.** **The American Revolution began after the first shots that were fired at Lexington and Concord.**

George Washington served as Commander in Chief of the colonial forces in the American Revolution.